

**DECLARATION**

As the below-named inventor, I declare that:

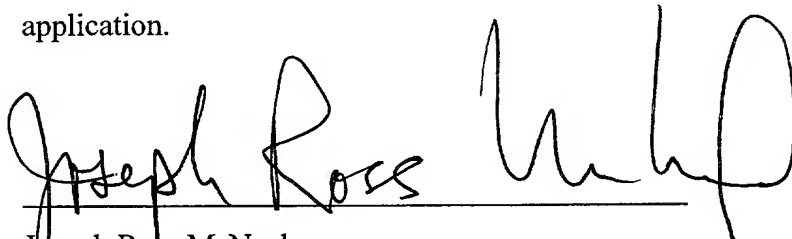
My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below under my name.

I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor of the invention entitled "PIVOTABLE STRAP-BUCKLE ASSEMBLY," which is described and claimed in the foregoing application, including the claims, and for which a patent is sought.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein (if any).

I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to patentability and examination of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that the making of willfully false statements and the like is punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and may jeopardize the validity of any patent issuing from this patent application.

  
Joseph Ross McNeal

Date 12.27.01

Residence : City of Hailey, County of Blaine  
State of Idaho  
Citizenship : United States of America  
P.O. Address : 821 River Trail  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joseph Ross McNeal

Attorney Docket No.: 501124.01

Filed : Concurrently herewith

Title : PIVOTABLE STRAP-BUCKLE ASSEMBLY

Box Patent Application  
Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

ELECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 3.71 AND 3.73(b) AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Sir:

The undersigned, being Assignee of the entire interest in the above-identified application by virtue of an Assignment filed concurrently herewith, hereby elects, under 37 C.F.R. § 3.71, to prosecute the application to the exclusion of the inventor.

Assignee hereby appoints EDWARD W. BULCHIS, Reg. No. 26,847; PAUL T. MEIKLEJOHN, Reg. No. 26,569; GLENN P. RICKARDS, Reg. No. 29,428; DALE C. BARR, Reg. No. 40,498; KIMTON N. ENG, Reg. No. 43,605; BRIAN C. PARK, Reg. No. 45,519; MARK W. ROBERTS, Reg. No. 46,160; STEVEN H. ARTERBERRY, Reg. No. 46,314; PAUL F. RUSYN, Reg. No. 42,118; ANDREW F. PRATT, Reg. No. 48,985; FRANK J. BOZZO, Reg. No. 36,756; JAMES ACKLEY, Reg. No. 45,695; RONALD BROWN, Reg. No. 29,016; DAVID BRUHN, Reg. No. 36,762; MARK CARLSON, Reg. No. 27,105; KEVIN CHAPPLE, Reg. No. 44,072; W. ROBINSON CLARK, Reg. No. 41,530; SHANE COLEMAN, Reg. No. 44,623; GREGORY DURBIN, Reg. No. 42,503; DANIEL FISHER, Reg. No. 34,162; DAVID FRONEK, Reg. No. 25,678; ANTHONY GANGEMI, Reg. No. 42,565; MICHAEL GILCHRIST, Reg. No. 40,619; THERESA HANKES, Reg. No. 45,501; JOHN HARROP, Reg. No. 41,817; BRAD HATTENBACH, Reg. No. 42,642; REED HEIMBECHER, Reg. No. 36,353; CRAIG HEMENWAY, Reg. No. 44,759; STUART HEMPHILL, Reg. No. 28,084; MARK HOGGE, Reg. No. 31,622; JOHN KENNEDY, Reg. No. 42,717; JASON KRAUS, Reg.

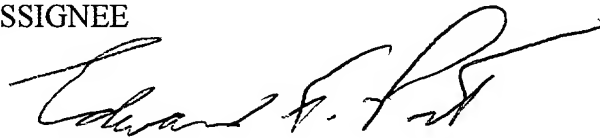
No. 42,765; BRIAN LAURENZO, Reg. No. 34,207; KENNETH LEVITT, Reg. No. 39,747; KURT LEYENDECKER, Reg. No. 42,799; SCOTT MARKS, Reg. No. 44,902; KEITH MONTGOMERY, Reg. No. 45,245; ALDO NOTO, Reg. No. 35,628; LEE OSMAN, Reg. No. 38,260; DEVAN PADMANABHAN, Reg. No. 38,262; JAMES PINTO, Reg. No. 40,774; GARY POLUMBUS, Reg. No. 25,364; SCOTT ROTHENBERGER, Reg. No. 41,277; LEONARD SANTISI, Reg. No. 24,135; ROBERT SCHEFFEL, Reg. No. 43,090; AMI SHAH, Reg. No. 41,143; MIRIAM SOHN, Reg. No. 35,368; HERMES SOYEZ, Reg. No. 45,852; GERALD SULLIVAN, Reg. No. 37,243; MARK THOMAS, Reg. No. 37,953; JON TUTTLE, Reg. No. 25,713; MEGAN VALENTINE, Reg. No. 47,149; LANCE VIETZKE, Reg. No. 36,708; SEAN WOODEN, Reg. No. 43,997; and the attorneys and agents associated with the firm of **DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP**, **Customer Number 27,076**, as its attorneys to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Please direct all telephone calls to **Andrew F. Pratt** at (206) 903-8747 and telecopies to (206) 903-8820.

Please direct all communications to:

Andrew F. Pratt, Esq.  
**Customer No. 27,076**  
 Dorsey & Whitney LLP  
 1420 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3400  
 Seattle, Washington 98101  
 (206) 903-8800

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b), the undersigned duly authorized designee of Assignee certifies that the evidentiary documents have been reviewed, specifically the Assignment to Smith Sport Optics, Inc., filed concurrently herewith for recording, a copy of which is attached hereto, and certifies that to the best of my knowledge and belief, title remains in the name of the Assignee.

Smith Sport Optics, Inc.  
 ASSIGNEE



Edward T. Post  
 President

12/27/01

DATE

Enclosure:

Copy of Assignment

h:\ip\documents\clients\smith sport optics\501124.01\501124.01 elec poa.doc

206070-25664001